

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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OAIL TANDEN, DIRECTOR

November 17, 2009

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012 ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

29 November 17, 2009

SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**Dear Supervisors:** 

FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE
BUILDING REHABILITATION APPEALS BOARD
IN THE UNINCORPORATED AREAS OF ATHENS,
COMPTON, AND WILLOWBROOK
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2)
(3 VOTES)

### **SUBJECT**

This action will adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board pursuant to Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, which provides for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Adopt the findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board that provide for abatement of public nuisances at the following locations:

2144 East 123rd Street, Willowbrook, California 90222

1721 West 120th Street, Athens, California 90044

4933 East San Vincente Street, Compton, California 90221

2045 East 130th Street, Willowbrook, California 90222

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### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures. Title 26 of the Los Angeles County Code, Building Code, provides for a Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board to hear appeals on matters concerning public nuisances.

# **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Operational Effectiveness (Goal 1) and Community and Municipal Services (Goal 3) as it provides services to the public that have a wide reaching positive effect on the entire community. The action will provide for the arrest and abatement of neighborhood deterioration and the elimination of unsightly, unsafe, and unhealthful conditions, which constitute a public nuisance.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There will be no increase in net County cost or negative fiscal impact. Costs of the abatement work are billed to the property owners. Failure to pay the bill will cause a special assessment to be placed on the tax bill and a Notice of Abatement Lien will be recorded against the property with the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk.

# **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Building Code provides for abatement of public nuisances through rehabilitation procedures contained in Chapter 99.

Government Code Section 25845 requires that the property owners be provided an opportunity to appear before the Board and be heard prior to abatement of the nuisance(s) by the County. However, your Board adopted modified procedures that delegated the required hearing to the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board with the requirement that the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board make a written recommendation to your Board.

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board has conducted the required hearing for the properties listed below. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board considered all competent evidence and testimony offered by all persons pertaining to the matters of substandard properties. The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding of facts in the matter and declared the following properties to be a public nuisance.

Your Board may either adopt these findings and orders of the Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board without further notice of hearing or may set the matter for a de novo hearing before your Board.

ADDRESS: 2144 East 123rd Street, Willowbrook, California 90222

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by November 20, 2009, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, and miscellaneous personal property, if substantial progress, extend to December 21, 2009, and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by November 20, 2009, the abandoned,

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wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) be removed, if substantial progress, extend to December 21, 2009, and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Broken discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
- 3. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 4. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 5. Wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicles or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 1721 West 120th Street, Athens, California 90044

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by November 20, 2009, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that the property be maintained secured with perimeter fencing to prevent unauthorized entry and dumping.

### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Overgrown vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
- 3. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 4. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 5. Garbage cans stored in front or side yards and visible from public streets.

ADDRESS: 4933 East San Vincente Street, Compton, California 90221

Finding and Order: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following order: that by November 20, 2009, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation, if substantial progress, extend to December 21, 2009, and maintained cleared thereafter.

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- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Broken or discarded furniture and household equipment in yard areas for unreasonable periods.
- 3. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 4. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

ADDRESS: 2045 East 130th Street, Willowbrook, California 90222

Finding and Orders: The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board made a finding that the property is substandard, declared the property a public nuisance, and issued the following orders: (a) that by November 20, 2009, the property be cleared of all trash, junk, debris, discarded household furniture and appliances, miscellaneous personal property, and all excessive vegetation and maintained cleared thereafter and (b) that by November 20, 2009, the abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s), trailer(s), and storage container(s) be removed and the property be maintained cleared thereafter.

### List of Defects

- 1. Maintenance of premises so out of harmony and/or conformity with the maintenance standards of adjacent properties as to cause substantial diminution of the enjoyment, use, or property values of such adjacent properties.
- 2. Overgrown vegetation and weeds constituting an unsightly appearance.
- 3. Attractive nuisances in the form of abandoned or broken equipment, neglected machinery, refrigerators, and freezers.
- 4. Miscellaneous articles of personal property scattered about the premises.
- 5. Trash, junk, and debris scattered about the premises.
- 6. Trailers, campers, and other mobile equipment stored for unreasonable periods of time in yard areas contiguous to streets or highways.
- 7. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled, or inoperable vehicle(s) or parts thereof stored for unreasonable periods on the premises.

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# **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Not applicable.

# **CONCLUSION**

The Building Rehabilitation Appeals Board confirmed the County Building Official's findings that the listed properties are substandard because they are injurious to health, offensive to the senses, and obstruct the free use of neighboring properties so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life and property.

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

Respectfully submitted,

**GAIL FARBER** 

Director

GF:RP:pc

c: Chief Executive Office (Lari Sheehan)
County Counsel

Hail Farlier

Executive Office